

**US 101 REGIONAL CIRCULATION PROJECT  
STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETING #2  
Port of Grays Harbor Commission Chamber  
September 12, 2006  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Meeting Summary**

**ATTENDEES:**

Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam  
Gary Nelson, Port of Grays Harbor  
Barb Smith, GH Tourism  
Leonard Barnes, Port of Grays Harbor  
Cheryl Turner, City of Cosmopolis  
LeRoy Tipton, GH Chamber of Commerce  
Jim Maloney, Hoquiam Police  
Jonathan Ciesla, Quinault Nation  
Commissioner Mike Wilson, GH County  
Commissioner Al Carter, GH County  
Commissioner Bob Beerbower, GH County  
Larry Bledsoe, City of Aberdeen  
Michael Tracy, GHEDC  
John Green, Aberdeen Police  
Doug Craig, Aberdeen Fire

John Perlic, Parametrix  
Joshua Johnson, Parametrix  
John Hart, WSDOT Aberdeen Office  
T.J. Nedrow, WSDOT Olympic Region  
Nazmul Alam, WSDOT Olympic Region  
Vicki Steigner, WSDOT Olympic Region  
Leroy Slemmer, Exeltech Consulting  
Bernie Chaplin, Exeltech Consulting  
Yvette Liufau, WSDOT Olympic Region  
Marcus Cuoio, WSDOT Olympic Region  
Tom Gibbs, WSDOT Aberdeen Maintenance  
Vicki Cummings, Council of Governments  
Theressa Julius, Council of Governments  
Nancy Trask, Council of Governments

**I. Welcome/Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Vicki Cummings, Executive Director for the Grays Harbor Council of Governments (GHCOG). The project team was introduced and includes Vicki Cummings and Nazmul Alam (WSDOT) as Project Leads, Vicki Steigner/Yvette Liufau (WSDOT), John Perlic/Joshua Johnson (Parametrix) as technical assistance, and Theressa Julius as GIS support (GHCOG).

**II. Recap of Meeting #1**

Vicki Cummings presented a recap of the first Stakeholder Committee Meeting held on August 8, 2006, discussing the goals and criteria that were presented at that meeting. The complete meeting summary can be found at the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website under the Stakeholder Committee link.

**III. Review Criteria**

John Perlic recapped the goals and criteria via a power point presentation and brought attention to the revisions in each goal. He asked the stakeholders if they wanted to make any last minute changes or additions to the criteria. No comments were offered.

He explained that the project team would be meeting to rank all the projects according to the criteria and would share the results with the stakeholders at their next meeting.

#### **IV. Existing Conditions**

[NOTE: The PowerPoint presentation and related information under this Agenda item were given to the Stakeholder Committee in hard copy for inclusion in their project binders.]

##### **A. Bridge Openings**

Nazmul discussed bridge opening statutes regarding the 33 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 117.5, 'when the draw shall open' for the Chehalis, Hoquiam and Wishkah Rivers.

The average number of bridge openings for boat ranges between 2 and 32 per month; and the average number of openings for maintenance ranges between 1 and 52 per month. The average duration of openings ranges between 6 and 10 minutes. The Chehalis River Bridge and the Heron Street Bridge all opened more often for maintenance than any of the other bridges.

Go to the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under General Project Information with the file name of Bridge Openings for more detailed information.

##### **B. Rail Operations**

Nazmul presented basic rail statistics such as the number of trains per day, speed of the train in the Port of Grays Harbor area, and number of days service is provided in a week. He also talked about the existing railcar storage in the Puget Sound and Pacific's Aberdeen yard, local street blockage from switching and building trains at the Aberdeen yard, and possible solutions such as new storage tracks, relocating existing rail line, etc.

Rail traffic is expected to increase significantly in the future. Without changes to the existing rail infrastructure the local street blockage will continue to increase congestions. Total road blockage for arrival/departure to the Port is expected to increase by 32% between 2005 and 2025. Possible solutions include new storage tracks, rail realignment, and Intelligent Transportation System improvements.

See the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under General Project Information with the file name of Rail Information for more detailed information.

##### **C. Accident Data Analysis**

Yvette presented US 101, US 12 and SR 109 highway crash data for the years 2003 through 2005, along with the types of collisions and the contributing factors. High Accident Locations are mainly in downtown Aberdeen. US 12 and SR 109 have more tourists traveling and US 101 has more locals traveling.

Vicki Cummings presented collision data for the local roadway system in Aberdeen, Hoquiam and Cosmopolis. High accident corridors and intersections for both the State highways and the local roads were identified.

See the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under Traffic Analysis with the file names of Highway Collision Data and Local Street Collision Data for more detailed information.

#### **D. Future Growth**

Vicki Cummings discussed the future growth of the Hoquiam/Aberdeen/Cosmopolis areas and also the proposed growth and development at the ocean beaches [refer to “Proposed Growth and Development” map handouts in the meeting packet]. A growth of 1,700 jobs and 900 homes is expected over the next three (3) years.

See the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under General Project Information with the file name of Future Growth for more detailed information.

#### **E. Traffic Analysis and Forecasts**

John Perlic gave a traffic analysis and forecast overview of the following: 1) level of service criteria, 2) existing traffic conditions, 3) year 2030 traffic conditions, and 4) finding and conclusions. The year 2030 traffic volumes were projected using a 2% compounded annual growth rate and pipeline volumes based on projections in the Port Industrial Road Strategic Analysis [HDR and CH2MHill, 2006].

Key points are:

- One unsignalized intersection, Park and State Street is operating at LOS F
- 6 arterial segments and 13 intersections would operate at LOS E or F in 2030
- Average Travel Times
  - US 101/SR 105 to US 101/SR 109 (Emerson Street)  
Existing ~ 11 minutes  
Future ~ 18 minutes
  - US 12 (Sargent Blvd) to US 101/SR 109 (Emerson Street)  
Existing ~ 13 minutes  
Future ~ 23 minutes

See the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under Traffic Analysis with the file names of Existing Traffic Conditions and Year 2030 Traffic Conditions for more detailed information.

### **V. Project List**

#### **A. Discussion**

Vicki Steigner discussed the handout titled “Unranked List of Projects (Draft)” which is a summary description of 29 projects. A map titled “Project Locations” was also provided which shows projects that have specific location.

Commissioner Carter suggested an additional project be added to the list, “build the west half of the truck route first.” That project was added to the draft list and identified as Reference ID “AD.”

The complete project list can be found at the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under Project Recommendations with the file name of Unranked Projects.

The project location map can be found at the US 101 Regional Circulation Project Website, under Project Info select Meeting Materials. Look under Project Recommendations with the file name of Project Location Map for more detailed information.

B. Pre-Screening Exercise

At this point of the meeting the committee members participated in a pre-screening exercise, placing red dots next to the projects that each member deemed to be important. The project team will take this information and analyze which projects will make the top 10 and will report that finding at the next Stakeholder Committee meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**VI. Next Meeting Date**

The Stakeholder Committee will reconvene again on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. in the Port of Grays Harbor Commission Chamber, 111 South Wooding Street, Aberdeen.

WSDOT has a dedicated web site for this project at:

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/studies/US101/Aberdeen](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/studies/US101/Aberdeen)

There being no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.